

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 L-03 /087 W
----- 065208

R 011138Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9802

US MISSION GENEVA 1487

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 17374

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN

SUBJECT: INDIA AND THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

(GENEVA, NOVEMBER 26-28)

REF: BONN 20087

1. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN INDIA WAS RAISED DURING THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. SPECIFICALLY, WAS ANY MENTION MADE OF THE CURRENT TRIAL OF INDIAN SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER GEORGE FERNANDES DURING THE PROCEEDINGS? FERNANDES, WHO HAD GONE UNDERGROUND FOLLOWING THE IMPOSITION OF THE EMERGENCY IN JUNE 1975, IS CURRENTLY ON TRIAL IN DELHI ON CHARGES OF HAVING CONSPIRED TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

2. FYI: THE NOVEMBER 30 EDITION OF "THE PATRIOT," A DAILY NEWSPAPER CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA (CPI), CARRIED A FRONTPAGE ARTICLE FROM ITS CORRESPONDENT IN BERLIN ALLEGING THAT THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL AT ITS GENEVA CONGRESS HAD ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL FUND TO CHANNEL AID TO POLITICAL PARTIES IN INDIA WHICH OPPOSE MRS. GANDHI'S GOVERNMENT. THE ARTICLE WENT CONFIDENTIAL

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ON TO ALLEGED THAT A SPECIAL "INDIA GROUP" MET IN GENEVA

TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN INDIA AND ALSO THAT THE
CONGRESS APPROVED THE MEMBER SHIP OF THE INDIAN SOCIALIST
PARTY IN THE SI. END FYI.

3. ANY LIGHT WHICH EMBASSY BONN OR US MISSION GENEVA
COULD SHED ON THE ABOVE ALLEGATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY
APPRECIATED.
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIALISM, PARTY MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE17374
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760446-0605
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761283/aaaactyz.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BONN 20087
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIA AND THE SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS (GENEVA, NOVEMBER 26-28)
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN
To: BONN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006